

# HOUSE BILL 824

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By: **Delegates Love, Acevero, Carr, Charkoudian, Crutchfield, Fraser-Hidalgo, Gilchrist, Holmes, Kelly, Korman, Lierman, Lisanti, Lopez, Moon, Qi, Shetty, Stein, Stewart, Terrasa, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Beverage Container Deposit Program – Establishment and Advisory**  
3 **Commission**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to establish a beverage  
5 container deposit program on or before a certain date; establishing the Advisory  
6 Commission to Develop a Beverage Container Deposit Program; providing for the  
7 composition, chair, and staffing of the Advisory Commission; prohibiting a member  
8 of the Advisory Commission from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing  
9 the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Advisory Commission to  
10 develop a framework for a beverage container deposit program and make  
11 recommendations regarding the implementation of the program; requiring the  
12 Advisory Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the President of  
13 the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and certain committees of the General  
14 Assembly on or before a certain date; requiring the Department to establish, on or  
15 before a certain date, a beverage container deposit program in accordance with the  
16 Advisory Commission's framework and recommendations; providing for the  
17 termination of certain provisions of this Act; and generally relating to the  
18 establishment of a beverage container deposit program.

19 BY adding to  
20 Article – Environment  
21 Section 9–1710.1  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
25 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

26 **Article – Environment**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **9-1710.1.**

2 **ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2021, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A**  
3 **BEVERAGE CONTAINER DEPOSIT PROGRAM.**

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

5 (a) There is an Advisory Commission to Develop a Beverage Container Deposit  
6 Program.

7 (b) The Advisory Commission consists of the following members:

8 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
9 the Senate;

10 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
11 House;

12 (3) one representative of the Office of the Comptroller, selected by the  
13 Comptroller;

14 (4) one representative of the Department of the Environment, selected by  
15 the Secretary of the Environment; and

16 (5) one representative of each of the following industries and organizations,  
17 selected by the industries and organizations:

18 (i) the beverage industry;

19 (ii) the Maryland Retailers Association;

20 (iii) the National Aquarium in Baltimore;

21 (iv) Trash Free Maryland; and

22 (v) the Maryland Association of Counties.

23 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall designate the  
24 chair of the Advisory Commission.

25 (d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Advisory  
26 Commission.

27 (e) A member of the Advisory Commission:

28 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Advisory

1 Commission; but

2 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
3 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

4 (f) The Advisory Commission shall:

5 (1) develop a framework for establishing a beverage container deposit  
6 program in the State that:

7 (i) reduces litter, encourages recycling, increases the quality and  
8 quantity of recycled material, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions;

9 (ii) achieves a statewide beverage container redemption target of  
10 90%;

11 (iii) provides for curbside and drop-off recycling;

12 (iv) encourages public participation in the program by ensuring the  
13 convenient deposit of beverage containers;

14 (v) addresses how to include all on-the-go beverage containers in  
15 the program, including aluminum, glass, and plastic containers for water, soft drinks, beer,  
16 and other alcoholic beverages; and

17 (vi) establishes a minimum redemption amount of 10 cents for  
18 containers less than 24 ounces, with the potential for a higher redemption amount for larger  
19 containers; and

20 (2) make recommendations regarding how to implement the program by  
21 September 1, 2021.

22 (g) On or before December 31, 2020, the Advisory Commission shall report its  
23 framework and recommendations to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House,  
24 the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs  
25 Committee, the House Economic Matters Committee, and the House Environment and  
26 Transportation Committee in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of the  
28 Environment shall establish, on or before September 1, 2021, a beverage container deposit  
29 program in accordance with the framework and recommendations made by the Advisory  
30 Commission to Develop a Beverage Container Deposit Program, as enacted under Section  
31 2 of this Act.

32 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
33 1, 2020. Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and,  
34 at the end of June 30, 2021, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the

- 1 General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.